



ST MARY MAGDALEN'S CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL

Newsletter - Spring 8 | 4th March 2022

Lent is always a time for reflection and I know that the tragic events in Ukraine are on all our minds and those of our children. If you are looking for more resources to help you navigate these challenging times a hub has been created with information you may find useful: <https://padlet.com/kathrynkashyap/War>
Thank you to Father Adrian and to everyone who attended the prayer service for the Ukrainian people on Wednesday night. It was an incredibly moving evening. Thank you as well for all the donations that we have received we will be dropping these to the donation hub in Twickenham on Sunday. I know that we will continue to hold all those affected by this terrible conflict in our thoughts and prayers and continue to think of ways we can help and support.

Dates for your diary

Wednesday 9th March – Tag rugby league matches
Friday 11th March – World Book Day – Costumes or own clothes
Monday 14th March – Netball V Marshgate School
Wednesday 16th March – Boys' Football Tournament at NPL
Thursday 17th March – Y6 Junior Citizen at Holly Lodge
Thursday 17th March – Lent Reconciliation Services in school
Monday 21st March – Netball V Darell School
Thursday 23rd March - PTA Event
Saturday 26th March – PTA Event – School Spring Clean
Thursday 24th March - Cyber Use and Cyber Crime Talk for Parents 5-6.30pm
Friday 25th March – Year 2 Scooter Training
Thursday 31st March – Way of the Cross led by Year 6
Friday 1st April – School Closes for Easter Holidays at 1pm
Monday 3rd – Monday 18th April - Easter Holidays
Tuesday 19th April – Start of Summer Term
Friday 22nd April – Great Mary Mag's Bake Off

COVID 19

We are hopeful that we are returning to greater normality as we have no cases within our school. In terms of restrictions there is no longer a legal requirement to isolate following a positive test, however, it is a recommendation that people isolate for a minimum of 5 days and we believe that this is the responsible thing for staff and students to do if they are symptomatic and/or test positive. They can return on day 6 following a negative test on the morning of day 5 and morning of day 6, otherwise they should remain off for 10 days. As this is an infectious illness, we expect people to follow this guidance, as they would with chicken pox or measles etc.

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The Year of the Family | Stronger, Kinder, Wiser Together

They are no longer required to isolate or carry out daily testing. Whilst test kits remain free, we encourage staff, pupils, and their families to take Covid tests if someone in their household or close circle has tested positive for Covid but they should continue to come to school. These are no longer recommended by the DfE for students, staff, or visitors to schools. We will continue to make our decisions based on risk and the advice from Richmond Public Health.

Online Safety

We know that our children are spending more time online and so online safety is more important than ever. Staying safe online is addressed throughout our computing curriculum but this week it was given an even higher profile within the school. This week, we have been reminding children in Key Stage 2 about how to behave respectfully and safely online. On Monday, our Community Police Officer Mick talked to Year 4 and 5 about making sure they keep their personal information secure and to Year 6 about ensuring respectful behaviour online. Key Stage 2 Class teachers further explored respect and relationships online using resources from the UK Safer Internet Centre, which also has a range of guides for parents and carers:

<https://saferinternet.org.uk/guide-and-resource/parents-and-carers>

Children in Key Stage 1 will be discussing these themes next week and all children will be reviewing and signing an online safety agreement in class. Additional information has also been sent with this newsletter.

Football Matches

Well done to our girls and boys football teams who took part in two league matches this week. They played with dedication and energy despite the mud and we were very proud of their resilience and sportsmanly conduct. Thank you to Hassan Davies who coaches the teams and to our parent volunteers and Mrs Barrett for transport to and from the matches.

PTA Events

Just a reminder that we are delighted to have some upcoming PTA events. Save the dates if you can!

Paint and Wine Evening Wednesday 23rd March

School Spring Clean Up Day Saturday 26 March

World Book Day

Another reminder that we will be celebrating World Book Day next Friday. Children can come dressed as their favourite character from a book or can wear their own clothes if they prefer. We are planning lots of fun activities including writing some wonderful whole school stories.

House Captains

Our amazing House Captains did a fantastic assembly today all about our houses and why they are important. You will see from the calendar that they are planning a baking competition for after the Easter holidays and we will be running a photography competition this half term. A huge thank you to Thalia, Kidus, Caleb, Matilda and Orla for their hard work!

Au revoir

Finally, it is with great sadness that we say "Au revoir!" to Evelyn Fernandes our school business manager. Evelyn has made an invaluable contribution to our school. She has worked with great dedication and has managed to secure our financial stability despite the many challenges we have faced always placing our children, their happiness and success at the heart of her decisions. She will be greatly missed and we wish her and her family every success as she moves on to her new role.

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Pupils of the Week

Reception – Paddling Class – Lucas MaRae

Year 1 – Circus Class – Sofia Prenga

Year 2 – Tribe Class – Nico Arcari

Year 3D – Leap Class – Riley Monk

Year 3FC – Zeal Class – Julio Araujo Filardi

Year 4 – Journey Class – Beatrice Heyland

Year 5 – Aurora Class – Miles Carey

Year 6 – Parade Class – Cruz Bennett

Headteacher's Award for Exceptional Work

Sofia Prenga for an exceptional description of
Bog Baby!

Emilia O'Reilly for a wonderful recount of her
trip to London.

Nyah Christopher for her excellent use of
subordinate clauses.

Maya for a thoughtful Lenten prayer.

Sophie Gardiner, Hugo Sharman Guerard, Zosia

Gorny, Emilia Newbold, Chloe Grindal and

Miles Carey for marvellous, mysterious poetry

Ben Wiggins for dramatic descriptive writing

I hope that you have a peaceful weekend with your children,

Catherine Hughes

Headteacher